Entrez Tutorial

NCBI's Entrez is an integrated, text-based search and retrieval system for more than 30 biologically-oriented databases. Entrez provides links to related records within the same database and between other databases in Entrez. This course will demonstrate how to:

- Obtain information about various database entries
- Search databases effectively using features such as Limits, Preview/Index and History
- Filter search results
- Highlight search terms
- Access, download and save records in various formats
- Access related entries in the database and other databases
- Save search strategies and results
- Retrieve large amounts of data as a batch
- Select an option to automatically update and e-mail search results

These are some of the examples of searches you will be able to perform after participating in this exercise:

- an organism and obtain its available data from the Entrez databases such as the genome sequence, proteins and their homologs, expressed sequences, Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms, etc.
- genes expressed in a particular tissue
- homologs among the annotated genes of several completely sequenced eukaryotic genomes
- aligned sequences from a population, phylogenetic, or mutation study
- SNPs on a certain chromosome that change amino acid sequence and have clinical associations
- articles that have free full text access

This course will cover databases such as PubMed, PubMed Central (PMC), Taxonomy, PopSet, OMIM, Homologene, Unigene, and the Single Nucleotide Polymorphism database (dbSNP). Some of the other databases are covered in other tutorials such as GenBank and Gene.

The following handout includes screenshots of the first exercise.

Exercise 1:

I. PubMed, PMC, Taxonomy and PopSet

Perform a search for mammoth across all of the Entrez databases. Which databases contain records associated with the term mammoth? Link to the mammoth literature citations in the PubMed database. Identify the articles available free in PMC. Access the article "The year of the mammoth". What are the cited articles in this publication? Download the abstracts of these articles. How many of them are available free in PMC? Access publications of some of the authors of these articles.

Go back to the mammoth search in Pubmed. Display the PopSet links. Access the record by Greenwood with PopSet ID 14090839. View the alignment in various formats. Link from the record to the Nucleotide database. The sequence alignment of which gene is studied in this PopSet? Display the Taxonomy Links for the PopSet and list the organisms covered.

Access the Taxonomy record for *Mammuthus primigenius*. What is the origin of the mammoth's specimens for some of the sequences reported in the Entrez databases? What is the lineage for mammoth? Which are the three major divisions of cellular organisms? Which of these has the highest number of entries in the "Structure" database?

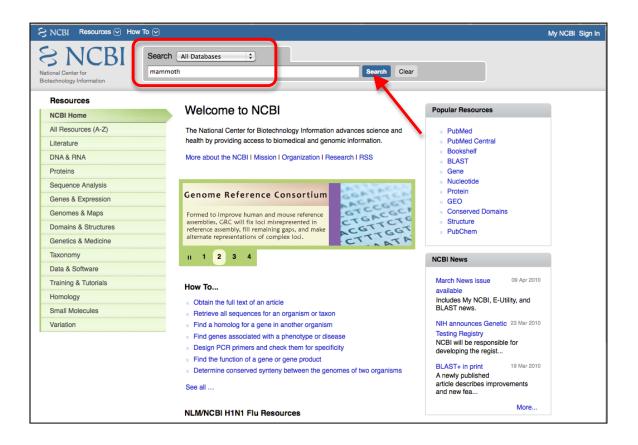
II. OMIM, UniGene and Homologene

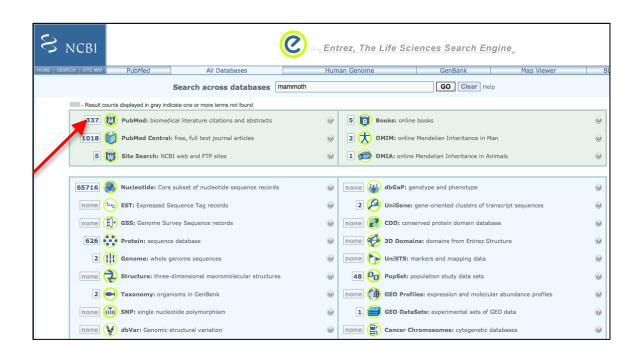
Perform an unlimited search for cytochrome c oxidase in the OMIM database. Repeat the query for "cytochrome c oxidase" as a term. Which search is more restrictive? Limit the retrieved entries only to those with gene location on chromosomes 4, 6 and 19. How many records have you retrieved? What is the chromosomal location of gene COX7A1 (OMIM record 123995)? Note the information about muscle and liver isoforms. Are there any known disease phenotypes (allelic variants) associated with the COX7A1 gene? Access the UniGene links from this record. Examine the expression profiles of the two genes. What do you conclude from the expression profiles? Access the Preview/Index page. Search for the UniGene records that have expression evidence of at least 100 ESTs? How many of these UniGene records are from mammals? Sort the records by organism.

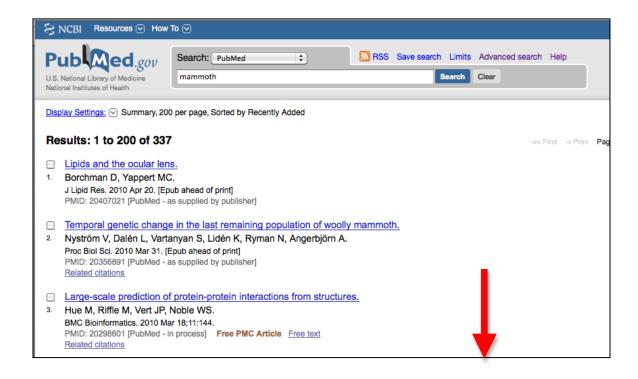
Access the HomoloGene database and perform a search for records relating to COX genes (Preview/Index—gene name and use cox* as a query). How many records do you retrieve? Are COX7A1 and COX7A2 members of the same HomoloGene group? Are all COX genes equally conserved in evolution? What are their common ancestors? Are there any COX genes that are conserved throughout the superkingdom of Eukaryota (Use the Preview/Index page—ancestor-- (*Taxonomy ID*: 2759)? Display the taxonomy tree for organisms included in the HomoloGene COX1 record.

III. dbSNP

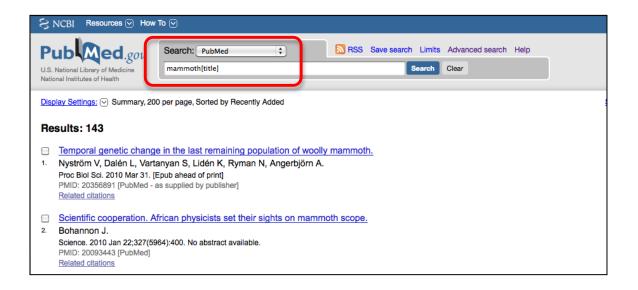
Access the SNP database and select its Limits page. Check the appropriate boxes to allow selection for human nonsynonymous SNPs in the coding regions of chromosome 22. Add two more requirements that the SNP has an OMIM link and is associated with a structure. Retrieve and download the UI List for these records. Use the saved file to retrieve the records with the UI List in Batch Entrez.

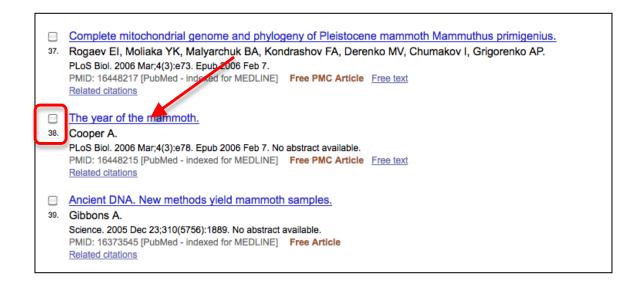


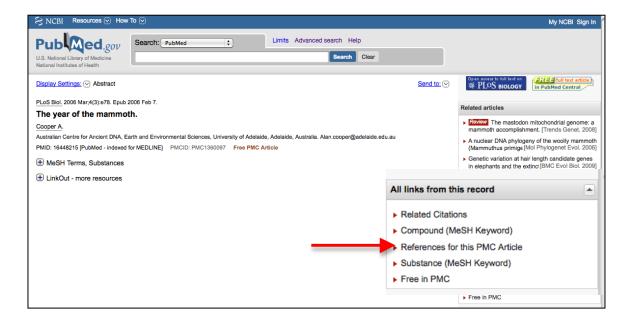


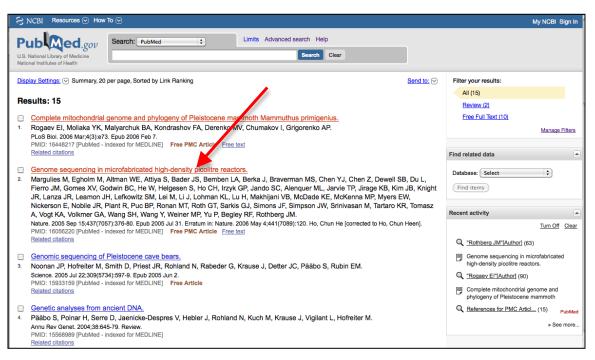


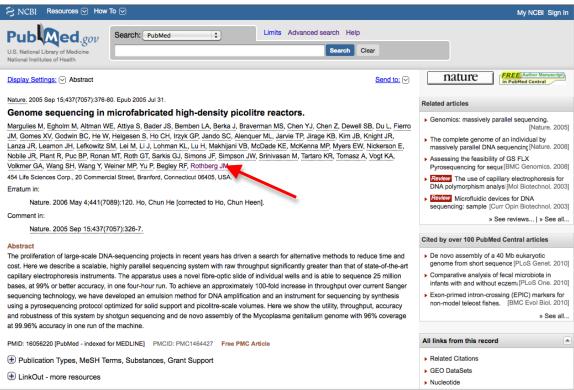
Evolution: memories of mammoths. 112. Gee H. Nature. 2006 Feb 9;439(7077):673. No abstract available. PMID: 16467828 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE] Related citations Complete mitochondrial genome and phylogeny of Pleistocene mammoth Mammuthus primigenius. 113. Rogaev EI, Moliaka YK, Malyarchuk BA, Kondrashov FA, Derenko MV, Chumakov I, Grigorenko AP. PLoS Biol. 2006 Mar;4(3):e73. Epub 2006 Feb 7. PMID: 16448217 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE] Free PMC Article Free text The year of the mammoth. 114. Cooper A. PLoS Biol. 2006 Mar;4(3):e78. Epub 2006 Feb 7. No abstract available. PMID: 16448215 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE] Free PMC Article Free text Related citations The role of zoos in the rehabilitation of animals in the circus. 115. Gupta BK, Chakraborty B. J Appl Anim Welf Sci. 2005;8(4):285-94. PMID: 16436032 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE] Related citations

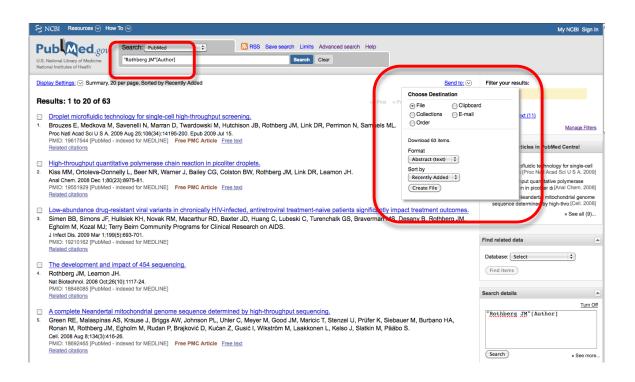


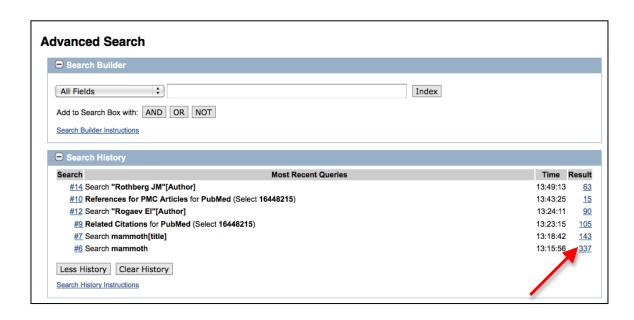


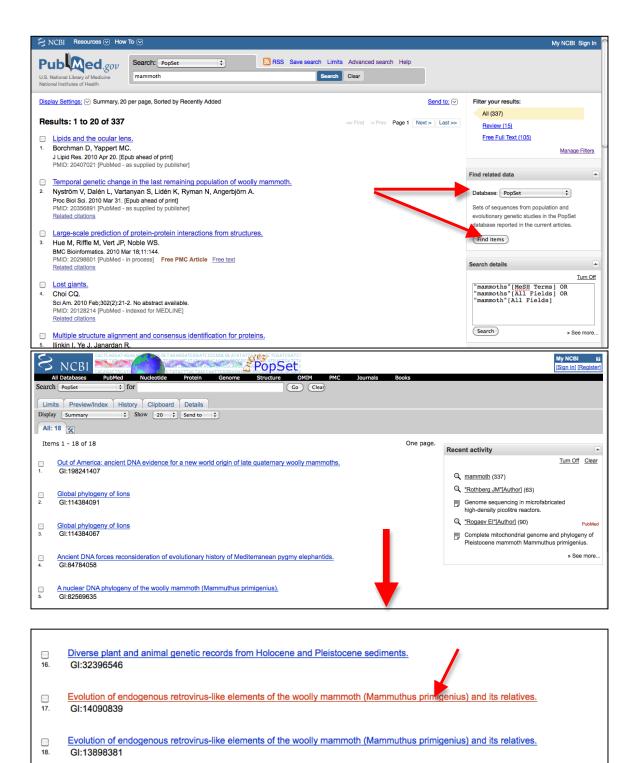






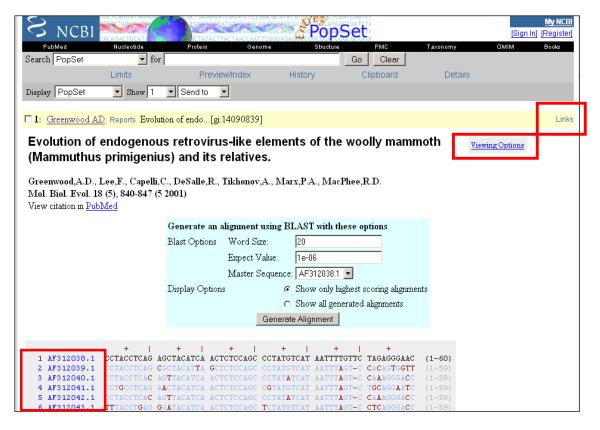


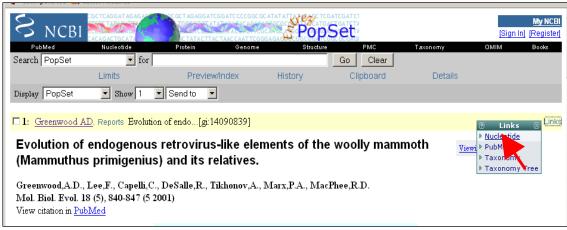


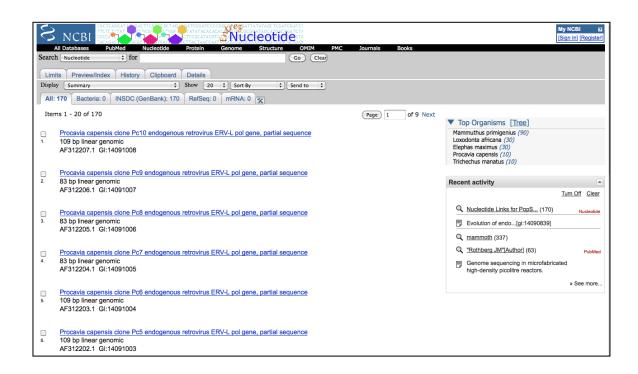


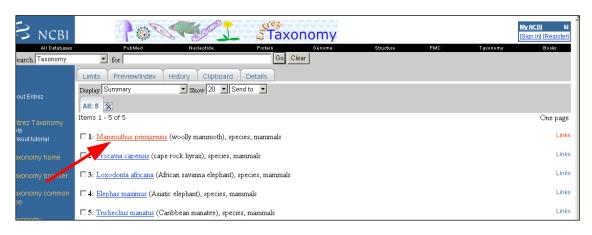
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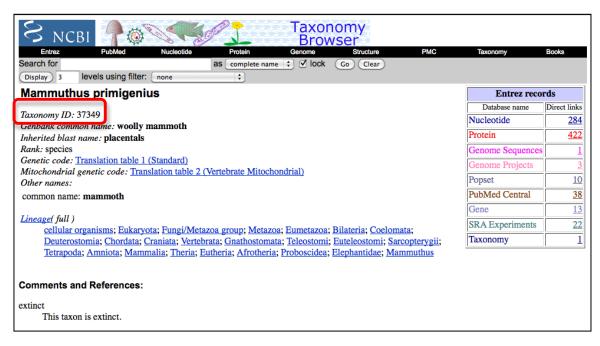
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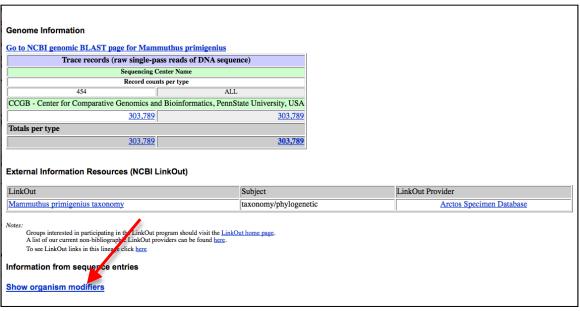




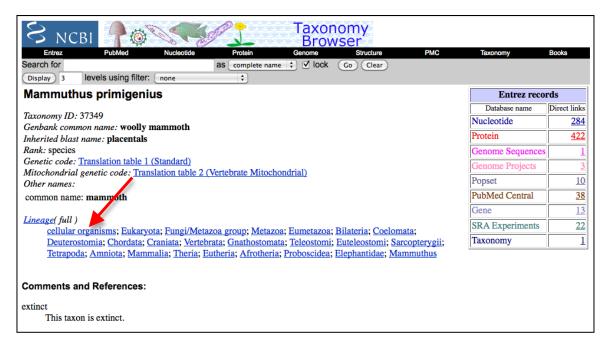


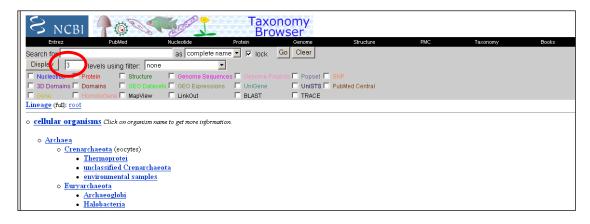


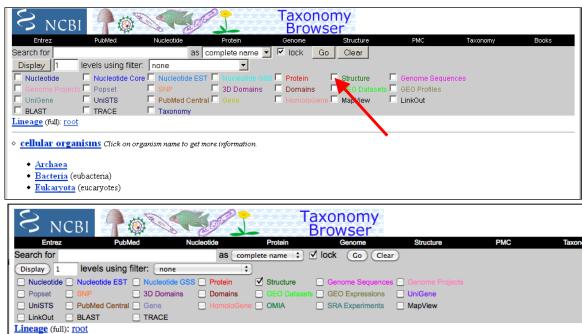




Organism modifiers			
To hide organism modifiers click here			
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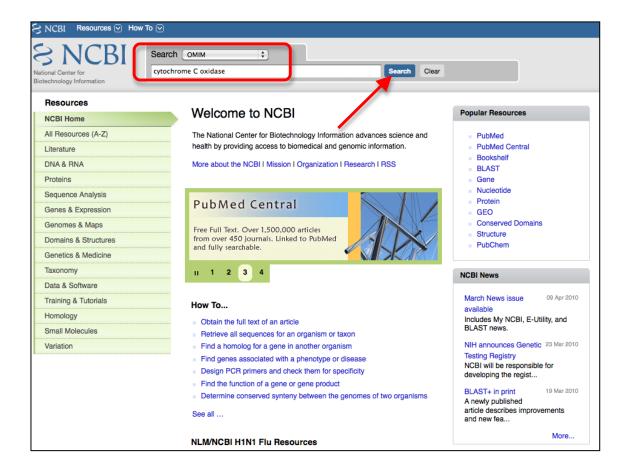


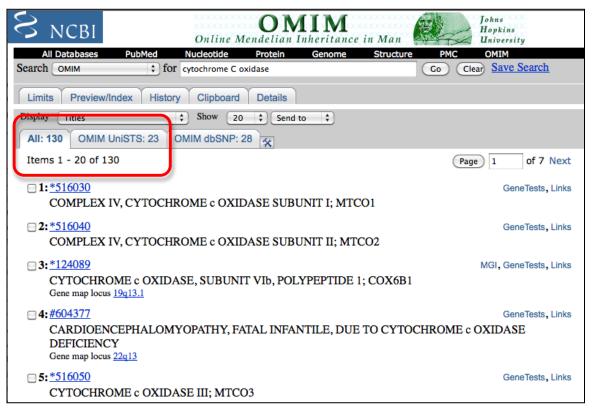
o cellular organisms 57,960 Click on organism name to get more information.

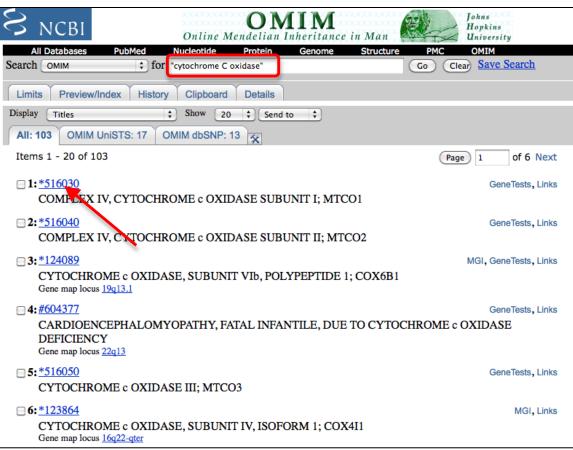
• <u>Archaea</u> 2,605

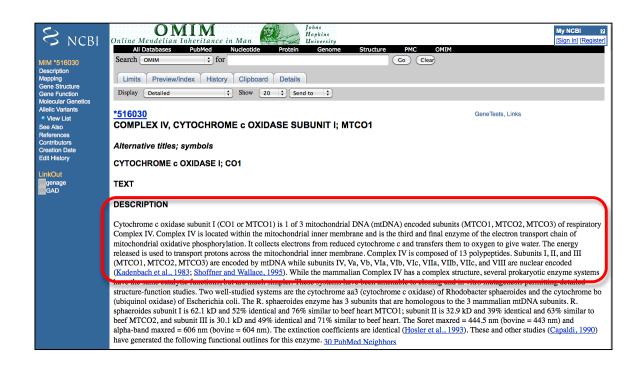
Bacteria (eubacteria) 23,055
Eukaryota (eucaryotes) 32,681

Example1, Part II









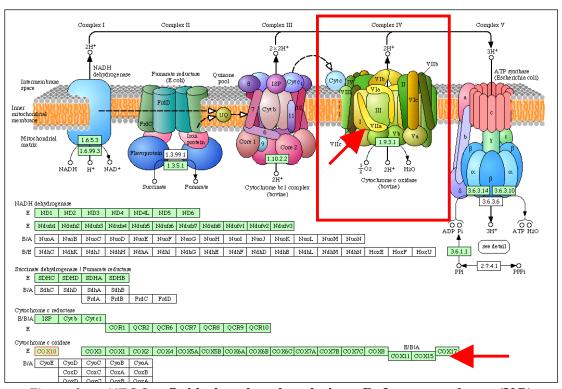
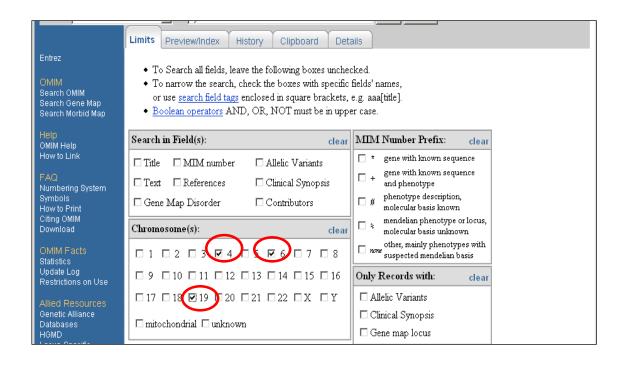
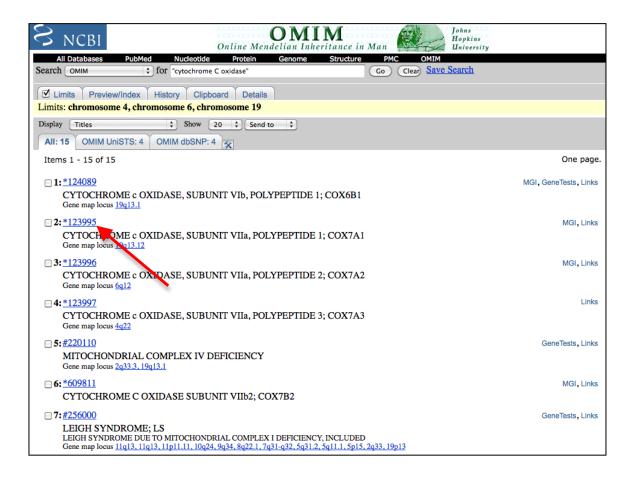
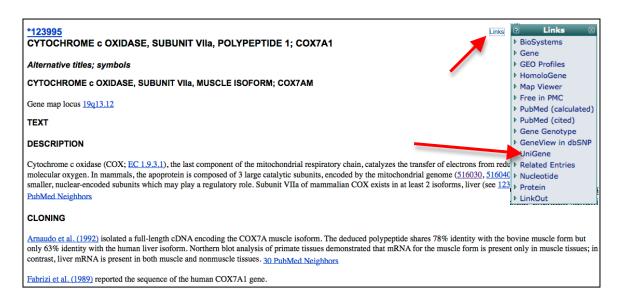
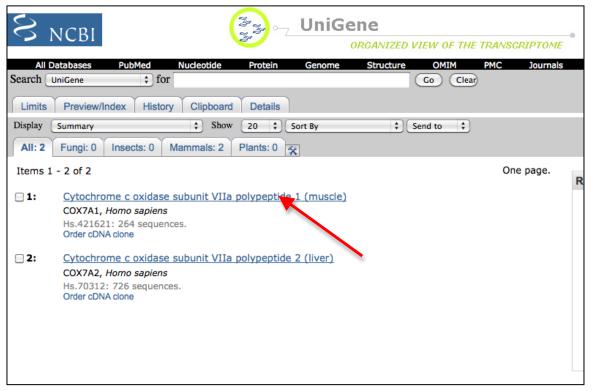


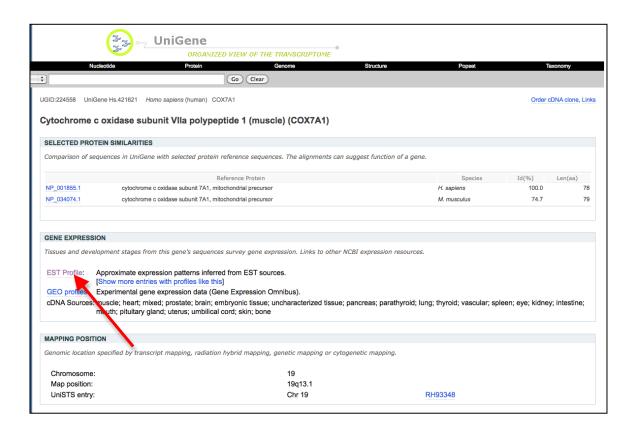
Figure from KEGG Oxidative phosphorylation - Reference pathway (KO) http://www.genome.jp/dbget-bin/show_pathway?hsa00190+4512

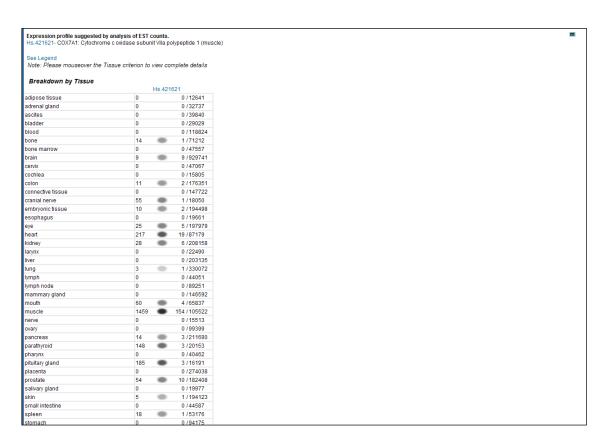


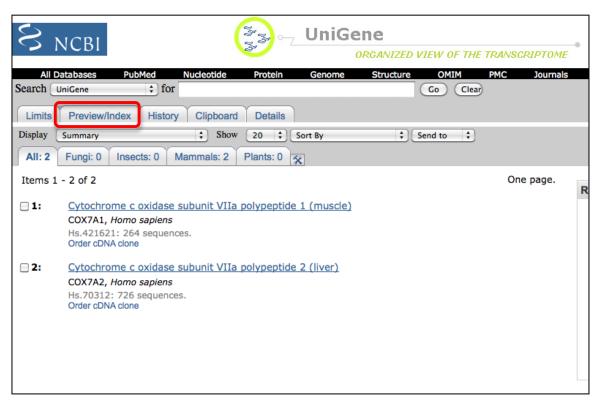


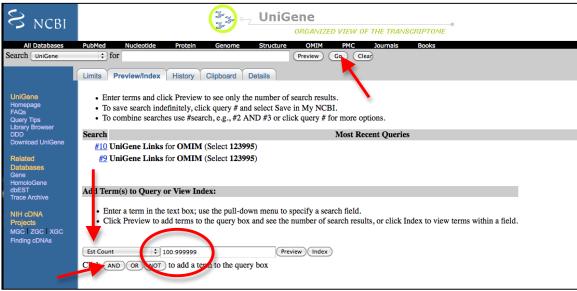


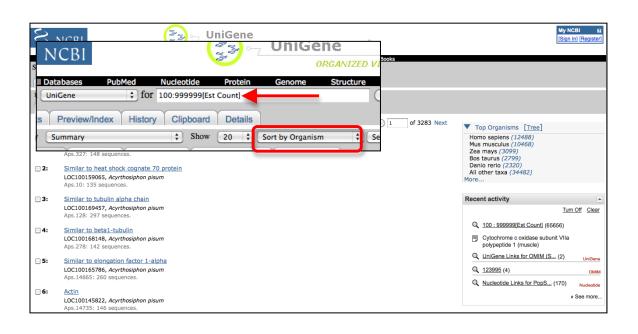




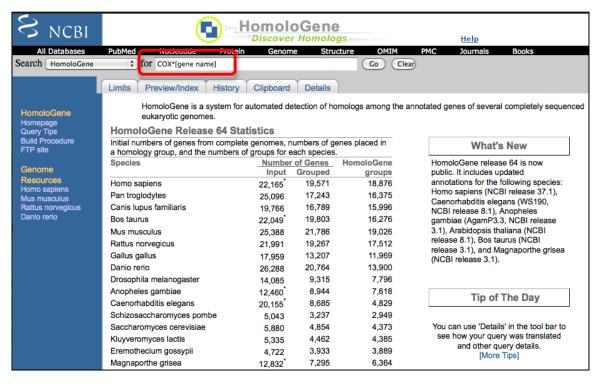


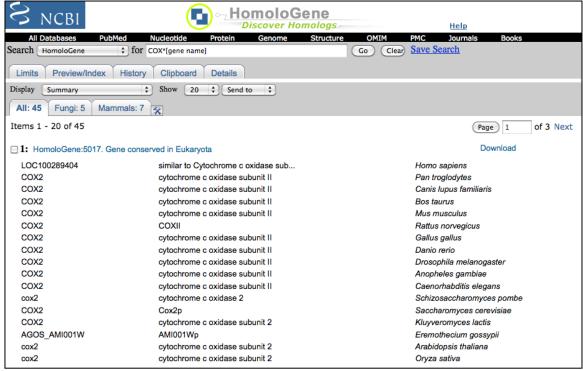


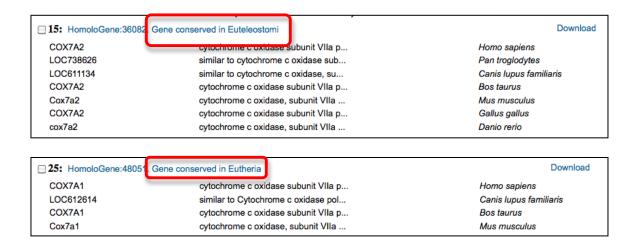


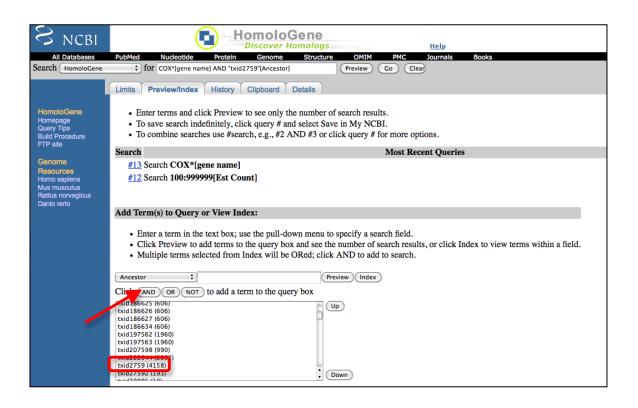


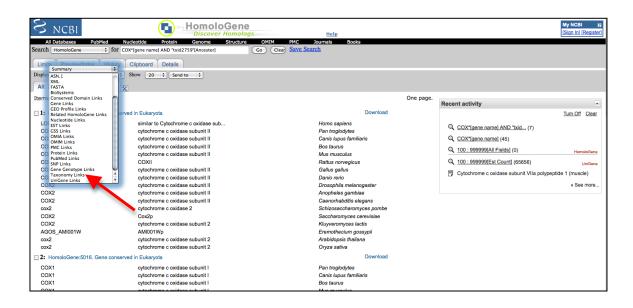




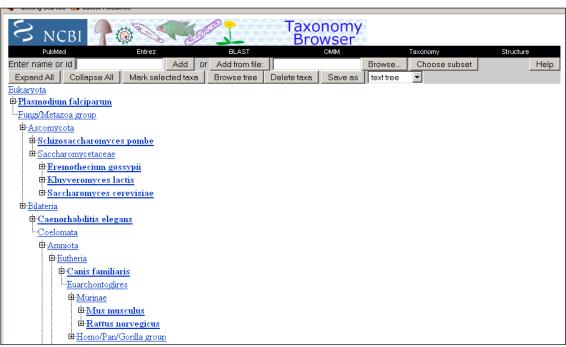




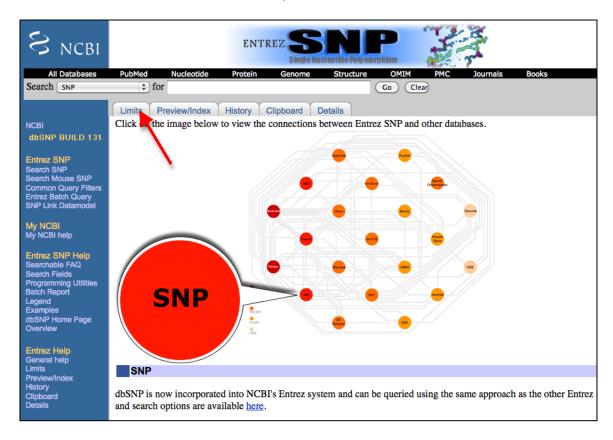


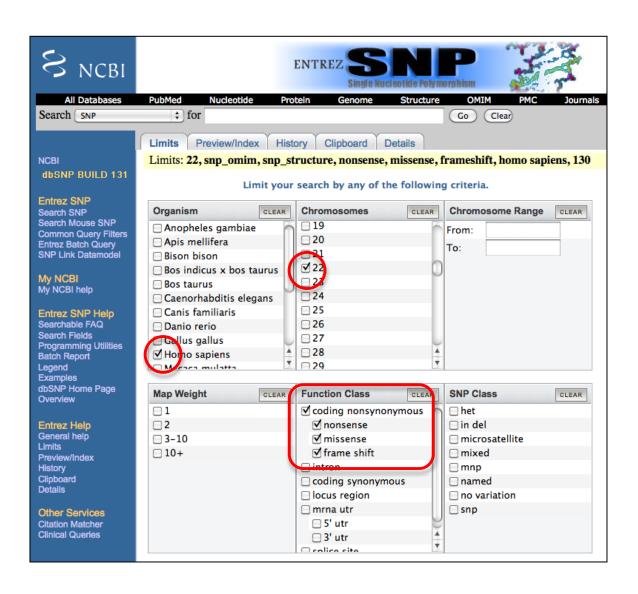


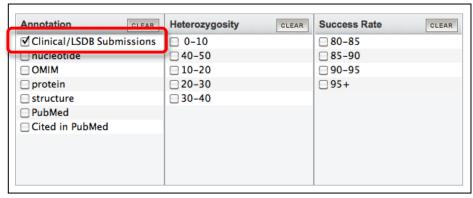


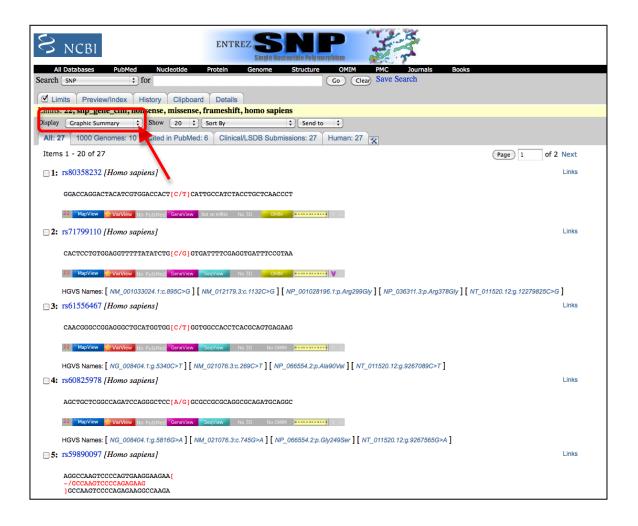


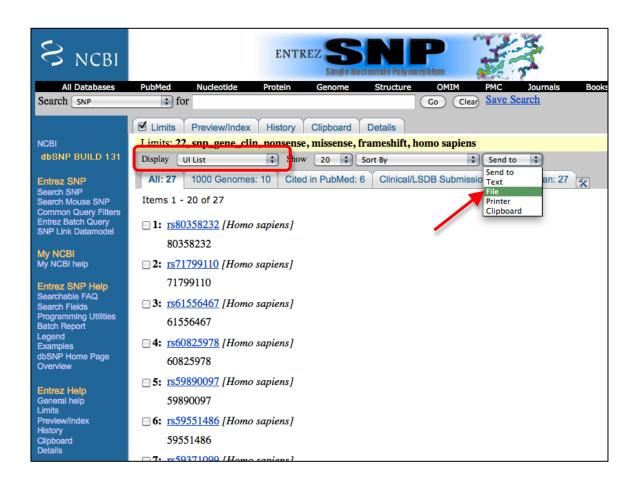
Example1, Part III



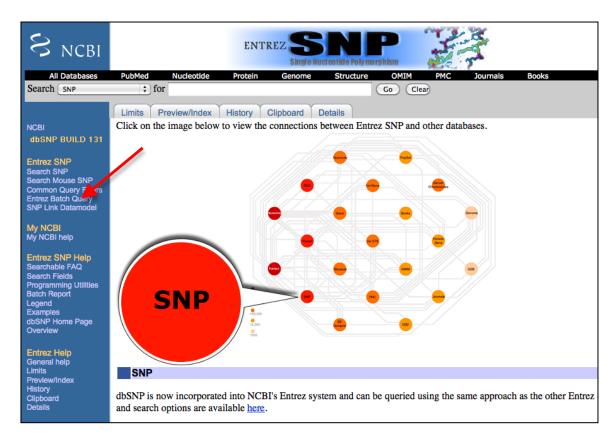


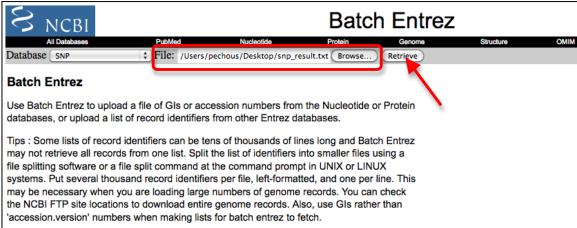




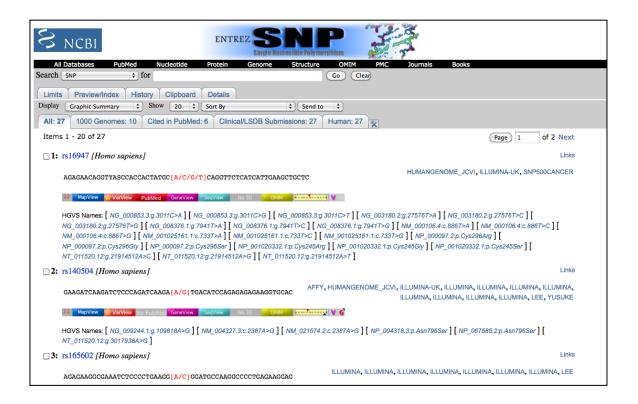




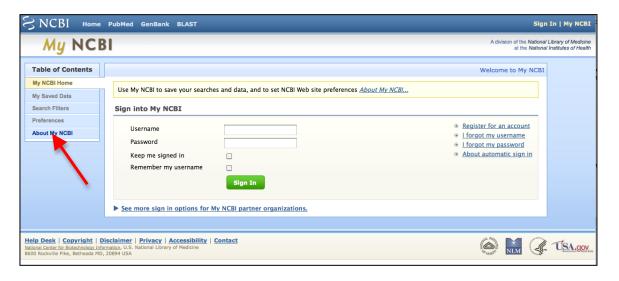


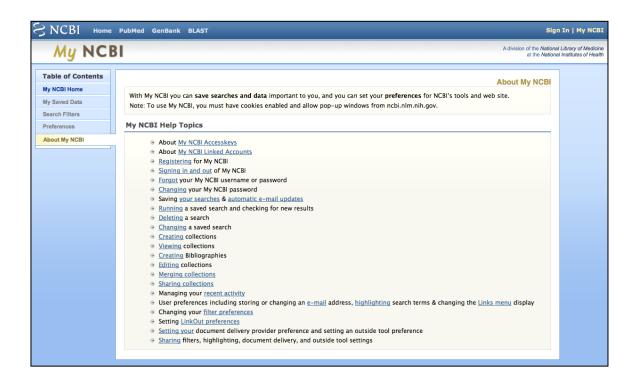


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Rejected lines: 0
Removed duplicates: 0
Passed to Entrez: 27
Retrieve records for 27 UID(s)

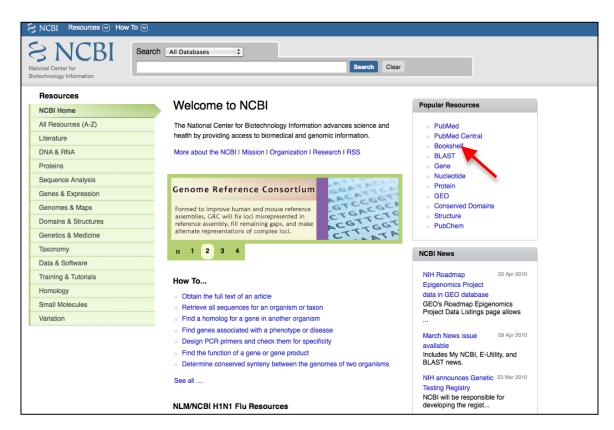


Customized searches:

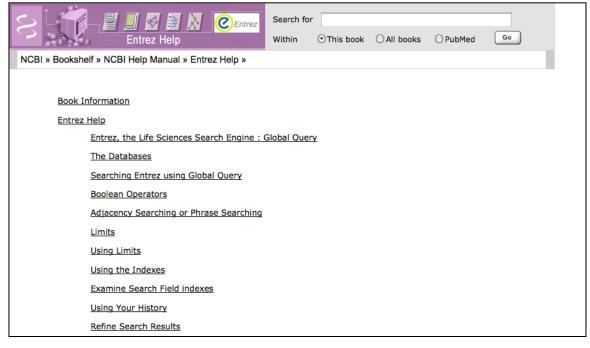




Documentation:







Example 2:

I. PubMed, PMC, Taxonomy and PopSet

Besides mammoth, how many other extinct organisms have data available in the Entrez databases? Go to the Preview/Index of the Taxonomy database, select the "Properties" field and from its index "Extinct". These records can be combined with the "Filter" that limits the search to those taxonomy records that have links to PubMed Central (PMC). The resulting search phrase: "extinct"[Properties] AND "taxonomy pmc"[Filter] Select the *Emeus crassus* entry. What is the origin of eastern moa's specimens that have their sequences reported in the Entrez databases? What is the lineage for this organism? Link to the PMC database and access the publication on giant moas. Link to full text of the article published by Baker et al.. Navigate to Fig 2 in the Results and Discussion section, if you are interested in the appearance of these extinct birds. Return to Taxonomy and from there link to the PopSet database. In the record submitted by Lambert DM, several ancient organisms were compared. Which gene was used in the sequence comparison? From the PopSet record link to the Nucleotide database. List all the organisms studied in this set (hint: use "Sort by TaxID"). Select the Emeus crassus and Dinornis robustus nucleotide records and temporarily save them on the Clipboard.

II. OMIM, UniGene and Homologene

Perform an unlimited search for records relating to cholesterol transport in the OMIM database. Repeat the guery for "cholesterol transport" as a term. Which search is more restrictive? Limit the retrieved entries only to those with gene location on chromosome 22. How many records have you retrieved? What is the chromosomal location of the gene APOL1 (OMIM record 603743)? How many APOL genes are clustered on chromosome 22? From the APOL1 OMIM record link to the UniGene database. Compare the expression profiles of the APOL1 and APOL2 genes focusing on the developmental stage. What do you conclude from the expression profiles? Perform a search for those UniGene records that are expressed in neonates (use the following: "neonate" [Expression]). Combine the result of the search with the six records that you have obtained through the OMIM link. Which members of the APOL gene family have no expression in neonates? Is the evidence strong for all of them? Search the HomoloGene database for records relating to APO genes (Preview/Index— Gene Name). How many records have you retrieved? Are all apolipoprotein genes equally conserved in evolution? What are their common ancestors? Which of these genes are conserved in placental mammals (Eutheria, Taxonomy ID 9347). Display the taxonomy tree for organisms included in the record containing human APOL6 homologs.

III. dbSNP

Access the SNP database and select its Limits page. Check the appropriate boxes to allow selection for SNPs at the splice site of human chromosome 22. Sort the list by organism. Retrieve and download the UI List for these records. Use the saved file to retrieve the records with the UI List in Batch Entrez.